

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ENTER INTO THE NATIONWIDE SETTLEMENTS TO RESOLVE ALL OPIOID LITIGATION BROUGHT BY THE STATES AND LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AGAINST DISTRIBUTORS MCKESSON, CARDINAL HEALTH, AND AMERISOURCE BERGEN AND MANUFACTURER JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS AND ITS PARENT COMPANY, JOHNSON & JOHNSON

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2021, the National Prescription Opiate Litigation MDL Plaintiffs' Executive Committee, several State Attorney Generals, and four defendants announced an agreement on terms of proposed nationwide settlements (together "Settlements") to resolve all opioid litigation brought by the states and local political subdivisions against the three largest pharmaceutical Distributors: McKesson, Cardinal Health, and Amerisource Bergen (the "Distributors") and manufacturer Janssen Pharmaceuticals and its parent company, Johnson & Johnson ("J&J"); and

WHEREAS, the proposed settlements will provide funds to states and their subdivisions for the abatement of the opioid epidemic and impose substantial changes on how the defendants conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, to date, the Distributors have made an initial deposit of funds into escrow by September 2021; additional deposits by J&J and the Distributors are anticipated in Summer 2022. Settlement funding may be paid to participating subdivisions by April 2022, depending on when a settling State meets certain requirements and subdivision participation levels; and

WHEREAS, Distributors and J&J have reached a \$26 billion settlement with litigants for states and subdivisions nationwide after three (3) years of litigation. The proposed settlement for New Jersey is an estimated \$628 million: \$511 million from the Distributors and \$117 million from J&J. The New Jersey Attorney General's Office has "opted-in" to the proposed settlement with both the Distributors and J&J; maximum participation of state and local governments is required for New Jersey to receive the maximum amount of settlement monies; and

WHEREAS, this settlement requires registration and participation by as many local subdivisions in the State of New Jersey as possible in order to maximize the amount of money coming to New Jersey based upon its incentive structure. For the purposes of settlement, counties and municipalities are considered separate subdivisions. Participants must opt in to both settlements with the Distributor and J&J to benefit from settlement participation; and

WHEREAS, the deadline to register and participate in both settlements is January 2, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the Township and its residents to opt into the Settlements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset and State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Administration

are hereby authorized to execute such documents as may be necessary to opt into the Settlements.

Introduced	Seconded	Council	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
		Kirsh	✓			
✓		Kurdyla	✓			
		Norgalis	✓			
	✓	Ring	✓			
		Pedroso	✓			

Adopted: December 23, 2021